	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/599,735	WATANABE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	GWEN LIANG	2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *Amendment filed on 2 September 2004*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-11,15-18 and 20*.

3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date *01032005* .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

JEAN M. CORRIELUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications regarding the applicant's

amendment, filed on 09/29/2004.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on September 29, 2004 with respect to the last office

action have been fully considered and are persuasive in view of the applicant's

amendment filed on 09/29/2004. Therefore, the objections and rejections under 35

USC 112 and 102 have been withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with Carl Brundidge on 03 January 2005.

In the claims:

Replace claim 6 with the following text.

6.   A disk unit according to claim 4, wherein:

said control unit abnormally terminates execution of the selected function

program in case that an access occurs in violation of the access examination.

Replace claim 7 with the following text.

7.   A disk unit according to claim 1, wherein:

said control unit monitors whether execution of the selected function

program was performed successfully and restores data stored in said disk storage

media to its state prior to execution of said-the selected function program in case that

execution of the selected function program was not successful.

Replace claim 8 with the following text.

8.   A disk unit according to claim 1, wherein:

said control unit monitors whether execution of the selected function

program was performed successfully, sets in the function information a user command

that specifies whether to restore data stored in said disk storage media to its state prior

to execution of the selected function program in case that execution of the selected

function program was not successful and restores data stored in said disk storage

media to its state prior to execution of the function only in case where a command has

been set in the function information to restore data stored in said disk storage media to

its state prior to execution of the selected function program in case that execution of the

selected function program was not successful.

Allowable Subject Matter

3.   As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's reply must either

comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not

complied with. See 37 CFR 1.111(b) and MPEP § 707.07(a).

4.   Claims 1-11, 15-18 and 20 are allowable in light of the applicant's amendment

and in light of the prior art made of record.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In independent claim 1, the limitation of "a control unit ... wherein said control

unit receives one of the function programs from the server computer and stores the

received function program into the memory, wherein said control unit receives a function

execution request ... from the server computer, selects the requested function program

from the memory, selects the function information in connection with the selected

function program, and executes the selected function program according to a condition

described in the selected function information,

wherein the function execution request is sent from the client computer to the

server computer to request execution of one of the function programs, and wherein said

control unit examines, based on the selected function information whether an access

from external of said disk unit to the data stored in said disk storage media is allowable

and restricts accesses to the data stored in the disk storage media from external of said

disk unit during execution of the selected function program.", taken with the other

limitations of the claim, were not disclosed by, would not have been obvious over, nor

otherwise fairly disclosed by the prior art of record.

In independent claim 15, the limitation of "receiving, in a disk unit, a function

program and function information relating to execution of the function program from the

server; executing, in said disk unit, the function program in response to a function

execution request from the client computer as per the function information; and

examining, in said disk unit, based on the function information, accesses from external

of said disk unit to the data stored in said disk storage media and restricting the access

during execution of the function", taken with the other limitations of the claim, were not

disclosed by, would not have been obvious over, nor otherwise fairly disclosed by the

prior art of record.

In independent claim 20, the limitation of "A client/server system ... wherein said

client computer requests execution of a function program by said server computer,

wherein said server computer creates function information relating to execution of the

function program that has been requested from said client computer, and wherein a disk

unit receives the function program and the function information from the server

computer, executes the function program as per the function information and examines,

based on the function information, accesses from external of said disk unit to the data

stored in said disk storage media and restricts the accesses during execution of the

function program", taken with the other limitations of the claim, were not disclosed by,

would not have been obvious over, nor otherwise fairly disclosed by the prior art of

record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on
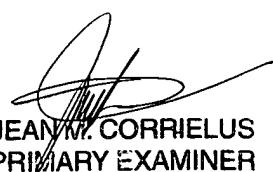
Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GWEN LIANG whose telephone number is 571-272-4038. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. Monday and Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN BREENE can be reached on 571-272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

G.L.
3 January 2005

JEAN M. CORRIELUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER